

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 12-14, 16, 17, 20, 22, 23, 27, 29, 30, 33, 35, and 36 are pending in the present application, with claims 1, 14, and 27 being the independent claims. Claims 1, 12-14, 20, 22, 23, 27, 35, and 36 are amended. Claims 6, 11, 18, 19, 21, 24-26, 31, 32, 34, and 37-40 are hereby canceled without prejudice. No new matter has been added.

In the Final Rejection dated May 29, 2008, claims 1, 14, and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112. Claims 11-13, 24-26, and 37-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). Claims 1-4, 6-7, 9, 10, 14, 16-23, 27, and 29-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). The outstanding rejections to the claims are respectfully traversed.

Examiner Interview

Applicants thank Examiner Chai for conducting an interview with Applicants' undersigned representative on July 17, 2008. Applicants' representative and Examiner Chai discussed potential amendments to the pending claims. Applicants believe agreement has been reached on allowable claims, and submit herewith claims that are believed to be allowable based on the discussions with the Examiner.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, 35 U.S.C. §102, and 35 U.S.C. §103

In the Office Action, claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 12-14, 16, 17, 20, 22, 23, 27, 29, 30, 33, 35, and 36 are variously rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, 35 U.S.C. §102, and 35 U.S.C. §103. However, in light of the amendments presented in this response and the discussions with the Examiner, Applicants believe that all claims are now in condition for allowance, rendering the rejection of the claims moot. Applicants reserve the right to challenge the rejection of any claims in any future response that may be forthcoming.

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**PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116**

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application, including claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 12-14, 16, 17, 20, 22, 23, 27, 29, 30, 33, 35, and 36, is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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